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SOURCE Shih-pao.

CANTON PRISONS FULL;
REDS DRIVING WEDGE BETWEEN BRITAIN, US

PRISONERS NUMBER 8,000-9,000 -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 5 Sep 50

It is learned from Communist sources that inmates in various prisons in Canton now number 8,000-9,000. This does not include those who are released on bail or sent to open up new land, or prisoners who are hidded away. Places of detention are crowded.

HONG KONG CADRES AGITATE AGAINST BRITISH -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 5 Sep 50

Meetings are being continually held in Canton, in which cadres foment anti-British feelings. Old scores are brought up from the limbo of the 19th century and students propagandize in squads against the misdeeds of "British imperialism." The motive is to express displeasure at British troops being sent to fight the Reds in Korea, and eventually to drive a wedge between US and British policy toward China which is now beginning to converge.

CANTON TRAINS CHILDREN AS AGENTS -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 5 Sep 50

To increase their numbers, the Communists are forming bands of Communist Youth and Pioneers all over South China. The former have enrolled 70,000 and the latter 110,000.

Culture and education offices throughout Canton have been ordered to form children's singing groups ("little devil" bands) who are to gather each evening from 1900 to 2100 hours to learn "liberation songs" and "yang-ko dances." Ages are from 12 to 18. These are the precursors of the young people's bands ordered by the Central government for every area.

The Chu Chiang Party Committee has determined to train 1,000 boys and girls as young cadres, or little devils, and has ordered party locals to select promising boys and girls from the elementary schools, ages 12-15, and send them to

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Shih-ch'i for transfer to a training center. Training will include the subjects used for developing special agents, such as spy work, using light weapons, etc. They will be trained for a year, then assigned to different spots for the express purpose of ferreting out "reactionary" thoughts, movements of guerrillas, behavior of Red cadres, etc.

People in the Chu Chiang region are greatly displeased with this scheme of the Communists for selecting and training their children (and those selected have to go), since it interrupts their regular education. Parents are disturbed and are withdrawing their children from school, to be sent elsewhere. Party secretary Yang K'ang-hua is in charge of the training.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN KWANGTUNG -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 8 Sep 50

Not long ago the culture and education office in Chung-shan called a meeting of school principals, at which it was decided to emphasize teachers' "political study." The conference voted to carry out the Central and South China Education Department's directive for compulsory education. Next term there is to be "anti-feudal education" and "land-reform study," as preparation for propaganda work, and for enforcing a political creed, so that during school age students will be limited in the development of their political consciousness.

The conference also voted to centralize the control of all school property in the hsien. School funds are not, in principle, to be controlled, but 30 percent of said funds must be put into a common pool, for centralized distribution. Communists get control of school money so as to be able to enforce their compulsory education.

FRAUDULENT BUYING ANGERS PEASANTS -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 1 Sep 50

The Central Kwangtung Trading Company fixed prices for the buying of rice from peasants, but when a buying team came into a certain district of En-p'ing Hsine, they offered much lower prices, and the ignorant peasants sold; this lowered the price also in En-p'ing. To the complaints of peasants, the Central Kwangtung Trading Company paid no attention, although higher prices were being paid in an adjoining hsien.

Moreover, in En-p'ing the company would buy only 20 percent of the grain available; after this, unscrupulous merchants would come in and buy up the "rejects" at further depressed prices, thus causing further loss to the peasants. Seeing the treatment the company had given them, the angry peasants concluded that the Communists cared nothing about alleviating the hard life of the rural classes, and that such slogans as "an overturn for the poor," are a part of a policy of fraudulent enticement.

CANTON LIVING COSTS RISE -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 1 Sep 50

Since the Communists early in August lowered the exchange rate on all foreign currency, Canton residents who depend on remittances from Hong Kong, Macao, or foreign countries have felt the pinch of increased living costs, or less resources on which to live. Since the rate was changed, a given sum yields much less in local currency, while local prices have not followed suit in dropping, and some have even risen. For instance, while a small family heretofore could live on 200 Hong Kong dollars per month, now it takes 250-300. Families who have returned from Hong Kong and Macao to live in Canton now feel the same hardships they experienced in those ports.

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